



**ARIZONA READY EDUCATION COUNCIL  
GRADUATION/DROPOUT PREVENTION TASKFORCE**

**March 18, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Executive Tower  
1700 W. Washington  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Phoenix, AZ 85007**

**Meeting Notes**

**Members Present:** Cathleen Barton, Patti Beltram, Rusty Bowers, Dan Brown, Dr. Maria Harper Marinick, Amanda McAdams (telephonic), Martha Morgan, Sam Leyvas, Diane McCarthy, Mary Murphy, Darcy Renfro, Dr. Amy Schlessman (telephonic), Tom Tyree (telephonic), Carolyn Warner, Merl Waschler, and Dr. Jim Zaharis (telephonic).

**Members Not Present:** Pearl Esau, Kent Scribner, and Christine Thompson.

**Staff Present:** Rebecca Gau

**Call to Order, Welcome, & Introductions**

Merl Waschler called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. and provided welcoming remarks and introduced the purpose of this meeting, which was to receive an update on the Graduation Rate Task Force Final Report and have a discussion regarding Out-of-School Time Program Standards.

Dr. Amy Schlessman suggested several corrections and adjustments to the February 18<sup>th</sup> minutes. Approval of these minutes were met with a motion for approval and were unanimously approved as corrected.

**Update: GRTF Final Report**

Rebecca Gau Director with the Governor's Office of Education Innovation (GOEI) updated the Task Force on the current draft of the final report. The Task Force then engaged in a discussion about the Final Report, providing their input and suggestions for amendments, additional information to include, labeling, and many other aspects that contribute to the continuing progress of the report development process.

**Discussion: Out-of-School Time Program Standards**

Melanie McClintock, Executive Director of The Arizona Center for After School Excellence, presented the Task Force with information on why she wants to build a stronger bridge between the formal learning that is occurring in the classroom with the informal learning that should occur in the out-of-school time program standards. Ms. McClintock stated that these standards "add relevance to what's going on in this classroom," and that research has shown that student

engagement in school activities results in stronger emotional commitments and senses of importance in students. She then provided an outline of the goals and stages of the standards as well as how the current system can be improved and how Task Force members can help.

**Council Comments**

There were no comments from the Task Force members at this time.

**Call to the Public**

There were no requests by the public to speak to the Task Force.

**Adjourn**

With no further business before the Taskforce, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.